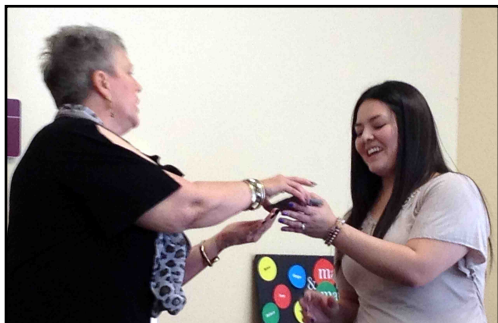


October 2012

Features

CASA Coordinator
Joan Hansen
Part-time Coordinator
Keesha Taylor
CASA Support
Lisette Olivares

Phone: 432-7521
Fax: 432-7247



Co-Editors: Joan Hansen, LuRue Troyer
Published by LuRue Troyer
troyer1234@gmail.com

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Coordinator's Comments

September was a very busy month for us with training and celebrating you, the volunteers. First I want to thank all of you for your dedication and in a lot of cases perseverance in advocating for your CASA children/youth. It is not an easy task as you well know. Many times, as

applicants are going through the process of being a CASA volunteer, they realize the immense responsibility it is to be a volunteer and they decide that they are not up to the assignment; better at that point than later after they have taken on a case. Still it is disheartening. But the new volunteers who have chosen to become a part of this wonderful organization are making their mark. I thank all of you new and experienced alike for your contributions to helping children in Cochise County.

The court report writing class was a success with only minor glitches, such as forgetting the PowerPoint slides. Lissete saved the day by driving back to Bisbee so she could email it to me and we could start the class. Next month's issue will feature a summary of the training that Mary Blanchard wrote and Bud Dragoo as-

sembled with a link to the PowerPoint presentation. I want to thank Mary Blanchard, Ned Letto, and Lissete Olivares for all their help in making this class a reality.

The need for baby CASAs, or as we refer to them Advocates for Babies in Care (**ABC**), is great. Of the 266 children in care as of the 1st of September, 114 are under the age of five years of age (42%). That is a high percentage of the children in care and we have been losing CASA volunteers who have been working with this age group with no one replacing them. If you are interested in being an Advocate for Babies in Care (**ABC**) and a part of the Best for Babies program we are looking for volunteers. There is additional training that is required (not intensive) for this program. Anita Cogburn and Rosa Barrineau are our experts in this area and are more than willing and able to help you get started. Let me know if you are interested in becoming an **ABC**.

Joan Hansen

Cochise County CASA Program Coordinator

October 2012						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Columbus Day County Offices will open	9 Evelyn U. 	10	11	12 Patti S. 	13
14 Lissette O. 	15	16 Stephen K. 	17	18 Please see below ↓	19 Please see below ↓	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN 			
→ 10/18/12 <u>Ilene</u> : Court Report due for AP <u>Mary</u> : Court Report due for RB/RB <u>Huddleston's</u> : Court Report due for JDR/UDR			→ 10/19/12 <u>Penny</u> : Court Report due for VC <u>Ned & Mary</u> : Court Report due for ALA/SA/AA			

Created by Lissette Olivares, CASA Support

My Tribute to Sheriff Larry Dever

by **Zanetta Boughan**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer



In Memory of Sheriff Dever
30 September 2012

On Tuesday the 18th of September, Cochise County lost our very dear Sheriff Larry Dever in a one vehicle, fatal automobile accident. It has left the citizens of Cochise County shaken and in shock. We are deeply saddened by the passing of our beloved Sheriff. We are left with fond memories and an aching heart.

Sheriff Dever's wife Nancy is the vice-president of programs for the Thunder Mountain Republican Women's Club in Sierra Vista. Our hearts and prayers go out to her and her family. We can only imagine the sorrow and loss they feel at this time.

Sheriff Dever frequently visited our luncheons as he was an associate member of our club.

He always gave me a big hug, and if he was busy talking to someone I would go over and interrupt them so I could get my hug from him.

When I was President of the Thunder Mountain Republican Women's Club in 2011 and was also working Programs, I called Sheriff Dever at home one evening to see if he could be a backup speaker for one of my club luncheons. He said, "Yes, I can do it because I don't go hunting until the following day. I'll make sure I have a backup speaker for me though, in case something happens and I can't make it." We both chuckled. I thought it was funny we were going to have a backup speaker for the backup speaker! Anyway, my speaker did show up that day, but I never saw Larry. Someone said he was "nearby" just in case I needed him.

Larry always wanted to know how my husband and children were doing. He was very supportive of my family. He believed that children should be "seen and heard." He said, "This is about them, not us." One of the last things he said to me was, "It is nice seeing you here, together as a family." This occasion was at the Cochise County Republican Committee, Precinct Committeemen meeting in Tombstone on Saturday, 3 December 2011.

The last time I saw Sheriff Dever was at our co-hosted Candidate's Reception "Meet and Greet" at the Pueblo del Sol Country Club on

Friday, 20 July 2012. We hugged and he asked me, "Where's Robert?" I replied, "Over there," as I pointed across the crowded room. He smiled and resumed talking with someone.

The Memorial service for Sheriff Dever was held at Buena High School in Sierra Vista on Wednesday, 26 September. Channel 4, KVOA video streamed it live. I sat in my living room and listened at my computer. One of the guest speakers quoted the saying, "If you seek a friend you'll never find one, but if you go out and be a friend you'll find plenty." Sheriff Dever had plenty of friends.

I was touched when Sheriff Dever's son Brendon told us about his Dad's four "Lessons in Life."

1. There is no such thing as a fair fight.
2. Life is full of bends and curves but you only have 400 yards to go.
3. It is not enough that we give our best, sometimes we have to do what is required.
4. Quiet strength, compassion and love.

Brendon also told us one of his Dad's favorite sayings. He had many. "If the deer don't go that way there's a reason."

The last thing his son said as he exited the stage was, "Dad, put another log on the fire, we'll be along soon." And I want to add, please Sheriff Dever, keep the fires burning for all of us.

How CASA Volunteers Have Been Recruited

by **Mary Blanchard**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

I asked my fellow CASA volunteers to share what they did to recruit a new CASA volunteer or how they were recruited.

Contributed by Carol Welch

I recruited Marie Garrett who is a good friend of mine. We were visiting and I was sharing about CASA, how much I enjoy it and feel that I make a difference in the child's life. We also talked about our faith and the blessings I had in my life and my wanting to be able to give back. Just a simple conversation and sharing what is in my heart was all it took to recruit a new CASA volunteer.

Contributed by Ned Letto

Ned shared with me how he was recruited. A mutual friend knew Ned liked working with kids and told Rosa Barrineau this because of her work with CASA. As you may know, Rosa is one of the most effective CASA volunteers. She simply showed up on Ned's doorstep one day and gave him all the CASA literature. He liked what he read...and joined.

Contributed by Mary Blanchard

My passion for playing bridge was how I recruited a CASA volunteer. On more than one occasion, I would come flying in to

bridge with my CASA badge flapping in the wind. Over time, one of the players found out about CASA and told her son Steve Klinefelter about CASA. He has worked with young people for 30 years and called Joan for more information and became a CASA volunteer. Thanks to bridge and a mother's interest in her son, a wonderful new CASA volunteer came on board.

Contributed by Adrienne Joubert

Adrienne had been working for months to recruit Krista Ochs for CASA. Adrienne worked and worked and was sure the friend was about to join, but nothing happened. Then one night when a group of friends got together, another friend recruited the lady. Adrienne was glad we got a new volunteer, but she was disappointed that her efforts were not what caused her friend to join.

I told her it was a joint effort.



Drug Court Parents Meeting

First Monday of each month

5:45pm

JPO Conference Room

CASA Volunteers are invited to attend. Their input would be helpful.

Contact Ginger Shreve for
information.

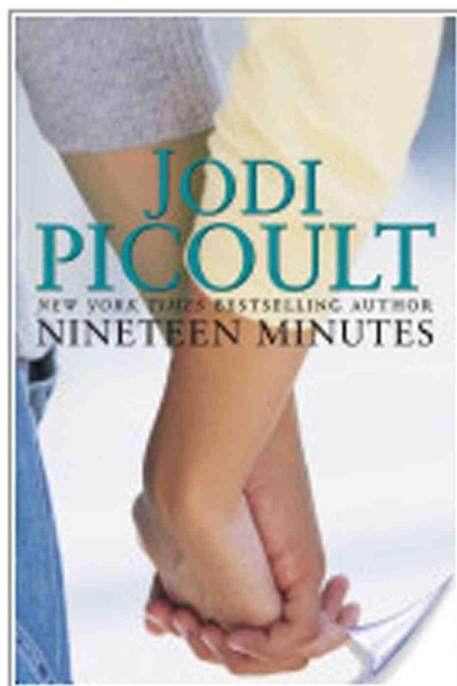
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Some Excellent Books by Jodi Picoult

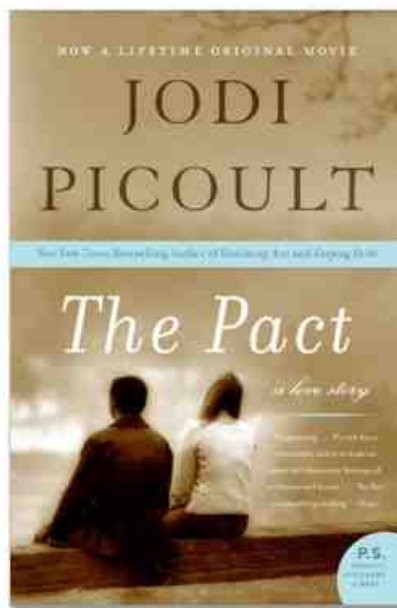
by **Patti Hager**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

I read as much of author Jodi Picoult's material as I can. Allow me to mention three of her books that have a CASA connection.

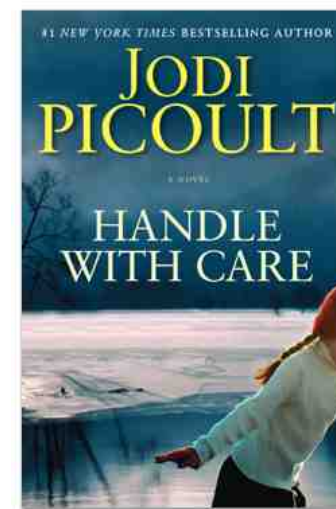
NINETEEN MINUTES is about the life of a young boy bullied since his first day of kindergarten on the school bus. Follow this character forward several years through many years of being bullied and being the brunt of school teasings and harassment. Good read for folks with high school kids.



THE PACT is a love story. Neighbor children who grow up together at home in either household. Both families very close and inseparable until the phone call at 3 am. A book about a family in anguish, friendships ripped apart and lives destroyed. Once again a good read for CASAs with high school kids, especially those dealing with the issues of suicide and pacts.



Note: Cover pictures may differ according to location and date of printing.



HANDLE WITH CARE tells the story of a family with a fragile child, how they love and take care of this child but are turned into CPS while at Disneyland. The child falls and is taken to the hospital and is x-rayed. Xrays show many previous broken bones and the child is taken away from the parents. Follow this case and learn from parents' perspective, laws meant to protect, and other twists that make this story one not to miss.

All three novels are by Jodi Picoult who states "when a moral or ethical question roots itself in my mind, I find myself thinking about what I'd do in that situation. I force myself to turn over every stone, consider the issue from every perspective."

AND isn't that what we do as CASAs?

Report from Conference in Phoenix on September 28, 2012

by **Mary Blanchard**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

An Interconnected Journey: The Impact of Many Systems on One Child

Ned Letto and I attended this conference. Since I always get lost in Phoenix, I was to meet Ned in the Love's parking lot in Benson where he was attending a CFT. The CFT lasted over 2 hours, and I began to get nervous and to suspect that something had gone wrong. I began to picture myself heading off to the conference without even the name of the hotel. I had no paperwork because no paperwork had been e-mailed to me.

I realized I needed to contact Ned, so I pulled out my lists of phone numbers and discovered I had brought my bridge phone numbers instead of my CASA numbers. I did have my client numbers, so I called Joan, but both she and Lisette were at a training. I called Sylvia Bankson at CPS (she is the secretary and an invaluable resource). She didn't have Ned's cell phone number. I called Jan Dragoo. She was in her car and wouldn't be home for at least half an hour. I finally got out my bridge phone numbers, and called a bridge friend who looked up Ned's home

phone number in the phone book. I called Ned's wife, and Pat gave me Ned's cell phone number (she gives it to me regularly). Ned didn't answer, but I had occupied myself by "problem solving" and keeping busy had stopped me from panicking. Ned finally arrived, and we headed off to lunch.

During lunch, Ned got out his packet, which included a confirmation number for the hotel reservation and a 21-page and a 9-page handout to read before the conference. At this point I did panic, but Ned found the hotel number in his paperwork. I called and was very relieved to discover that I did indeed have a reservation. That was enough excitement for one day.

The hotel--JW Marriott Desert Ridge--was amazing. A doorman opened the door and there were 4 or 5 people at the reservation desk and someone to offer bottled water. The room was so fancy it even included a balcony. It was so well appointed it took me fifteen minutes to locate the coffee pot. Ned and I tried to appreciate the overly attentive staff at breakfast and lunch. When Ned didn't immediately put his napkin in his lap, a waitress flipped it open and did it for him. All

this luxury was provided at the government per diem rate.

The conference was well worth attending. We worked in small groups. Every person was given a plaque with the name of his/her agency, and every person had to find a table where everyone else was from a different agency.

At my table were a judge, a representative from the Casey Foundation, a probation officer, a behavioral health specialist, two lawyers and a designated note taker. Our job was to think collaboratively and identify ways to improve outcomes for a youth and his family.

The activity had a series of 6 handouts telling us about a 16-year-old boy named Oscar. The first handout was an overview of the current situation, and each of the other handouts gave us additional background information. We had a task for each handout and worked together as a team to complete our task. Our recommendations were handed in at the end of the activity, and the input from all the groups will be analyzed and incorporated into a study.

Many of our own CASA kids have suffered many kinds of abuse. The treatment plan that

~Continued on next page

Report from Conference in Phoenix on September 28, 2012 (continued)

was used for Oscar was Trauma-Informed Care. Using this approach enabled Oscar to learn how to function and to better control his impulses. (See last column for more information on this approach.)

Summary of the Oscar Activity

1. Working in groups taught us to pool our resources to problem solve.
2. We became a supportive, cohesive group. We listened and shared and reached consensus. We became a team.
3. We did not have all the background information when we started with handout #1. We had to use what we had and realize that we didn't know Oscar's whole story. We were aware that we had to be ready to utilize additional information. We had to begin where we were and then revise our strategies based on new information.
4. Oscar's most effective advocate was the social worker. The social worker had Oscar complete a trauma-screening instrument. This screening

identified areas of trauma that had not been previously identified. Oscar was willing to join a Trauma and Grief Component Therapy group for Adolescents (TGCT-A), an evidence-based group intervention. Oscar slowly began to develop trust and began to heal.

I think it is very positive that the therapy was specifically targeted to work with identified areas of trauma, with the result that Oscar began to recognize his "triggers" and to learn more effective ways to respond.

5. The comments I heard about the conference from the people around me were all positive. Working with people who have different areas of expertise helped me to better realize that their training will affect how they "see" the case. All of our agencies work to help kids, but each of us helps in a somewhat different way. Learning to work together and to listen to each other and to incorporate all our views allowed us to come up with a workable and flexible plan to help Oscar and his family.

I Googled "Trauma Informed Care" and here is a short description of how it works.

What are Trauma-Specific Interventions?

Trauma-specific interventions are designed specifically to address the consequences of trauma in the individual and to facilitate healing. Treatment programs generally recognize the following:

- The survivor's need to be respected, informed, connected, and hopeful regarding their own recovery
- The interrelation between trauma and symptoms of trauma (e.g., substance abuse, eating disorders, depression, and anxiety)
- The need to work in a collaborative way with survivors, family and friends of the survivor, and other human services agencies in a manner that will empower survivors and consumers

The website is www.samhsa.gov and then click on "The National Center for Trauma-Informed Care" Check out the headings in this section for additional information.



Training Opportunity

Now Playing for October

Training Hours can be achieved in many ways. There are training sessions, seminars, webinars, conferences, reading (books, articles, this newsletter, etc) as well as taking online courses and watching TV specials.

Former Foster Children Speak Candidly

Three former Oregon foster children from Oregon Foster Youth Connection/Children First for Oregon talk about mental health interventions: CPS case workers, therapists, foster families, medications, and more.

About half-way through, there is a wonderful tribute to a CASA volunteer who was the first adult to bring caring and sanity into this young woman's life.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=idhlQjv4CGQ

Length: 56:20



Watching and writing a summary of this video is worth 1 hour of training. Send the summary to Joan for credit.

KUDOS



Juanita Adamson

7/11/12 FCRB Hearing

The Board appreciates the investment and oversight of the Court Appointed Special Advocate.

Jim and Carol Huddleston

8/1/12 FCRB Hearing

The Board commends the CASAs and the Team for all their support to the paternal grandfather and the children.

Mary Blanchard

8/1/12 FCRB Hearing

The Board commends the case manager and the CASA for her (sic) efforts, work, and dedication in this case, specially (sic) for advocating for S's educational needs.

Penny Duvall

8/8/12 FCRB hearing

The Board thanks the Court Appointed Special Advocate for her willingness to volunteer her time to support T and provide her guidance.

Emma Melo

8/8/12 FCRB Hearing, Maternal Grandmother's remarks

The Court Appointed Special Advocate has been very helpful.

Jan and Bud CASAs and Mary Blanchard Co-CASA

Progress Report (Case Manager's Conclusions) from CPS 8/31/12

The CASA volunteers continue to do an excellent job at monitoring S and assisting wherever they can to help him. For example: they coordinate visits with his sister; take him on outings and promote positive interactions. They have been very helpful to me in this case and I really appreciate all their efforts.

Quote of the Day

"The point is not to pay back kindness but to pass it on."

– Julia Alvarez



About Julia Alvarez

Dominican-American author Julia Alvarez is best known for her novels, *How the García Girls Lost Their Accents*, about sisters adjusting to life in the US, and *In the Time of the Butterflies*, the tragic life story of the anti-Trujillo activists, the Mirabal sisters. Born in New York in 1950, she was raised in the Dominican Republic until she was ten, when her family fled the country. She and her husband live in Vermont and run a sustainable coffee farm/literacy center in the Dominican Republic.



Children's Services Manual

Division of Children, Youth, and Families
Arizona Department of Economic Security

Exhibit 3

CPS RESPONSE SYSTEM AND MITIGATING FACTORS FOR CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE

CPS RESPONSE SYSTEM

RESPONSE TIME 1 (Standard Response Time 2 Hours; Mitigated Response Time 24 Hours)

For the purpose of determining the initial response to a report at the Child Abuse Hotline, present danger refers to an immediate, significant and clearly observable family condition present now which has resulted in or is likely to result in serious or severe harm requiring an immediate initial response.

The following conditions suggest that a child may be in present danger:

Extent of Maltreatment

1. Death of a child due to physical

- abuse, neglect or suspicious death
2. Serious injuries including but not limited to:
 - fractures
 - immersion burns, second or third degree burns
 - shaken baby syndrome
 - multiple plane injuries
3. Serious injuries to face or head including but not limited to:
 - bruises
 - cuts
 - abrasions
 - swelling
4. Injuries to a non-ambulatory child
5. Injuries to a child up to one (1) year of age
6. Unknown injuries, but child under the age of six (6) observed or reported to be forcefully struck in the face, head, neck, genitalia or abdomen which could likely cause an injury.
7. Child injured during an incident of domestic violence.
8. The restriction of movement or confinement of a child to an enclosed area and/or uses a threat of harm or intimidation to force a child to remain in a location or position which may in-

clude:

- tying a child's arms or legs together
 - tying a child to an object
 - locking a child in a cage
9. Physical injury resulting from permitting a child to enter or remain in a structure or vehicle that is used for the purposes of manufacturing dangerous drugs.
 10. Living environment is an immediate threat to child's safety. This would include the most serious health circumstances, such as buildings capable of falling in, exposure to elements in extreme weather, fire hazards, electrical wiring exposed, weapons accessible and available, access to dangerous objects or harmful substances, manufacturing of drugs (i.e. meth lab), etc.
 11. Child presents with clear physical indicators of malnourishment, as dehydrated or failure to thrive (a.k.a. poor weight gain or pediatric undernourishment).
 12. Child requires emergency medical care and caregiver is unwilling or unable to seek treatment.
 13. A substance exposed newborn who is scheduled for discharge within 24 hours or is at home. Substance exposed newborn is defined as an infant

~Continued on next page



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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC SECURITY

Continued

(birth to one (1) year of age) exposed prenatally to alcohol or drugs including an infant who is exhibiting symptoms consistent with fetal alcohol syndrome or fetal alcohol effects.

14. Caregiver provides the child prescribed/non-prescribed or adult medications, or illegal drugs or alcohol and the child requires emergency medical care.
15. Child left alone and is not capable of caring for self or other children.
16. Evidence or disclosure of current sexual abuse (sexual contact only) **and** the perpetrator currently has or will have access within the next 48 hours to the identified victim. This does not include historical allegations of sexual abuse, unless there is a clear threat of reoccurrence.

Child Functioning

17. Child is extremely fearful because of their home situation, present circumstance or because of a threat of additional abuse or neglect. This does not refer to fear of legal disciplinary prac-

tices or generalized fear.

18. Child is a danger to self or others now and caregiver cannot or will not control the child's behavior.

Adult Functioning

19. Child was in close proximity to an incident of domestic violence and could have been injured. This includes being held by one of the adults during the incident.
20. Caregiver is described as physically or verbally imposing and threatening, brandishing weapons, or currently behaving in attacking or aggressive ways.
21. The caregiver describes or acts toward the child in predominantly negative terms or has a distorted view of the child or has extremely unrealistic expectations given the child's age or level of development.
22. Caregiver is **incapacitated** due to substance use/abuse, behavioral/mental illness including depression and situational stress, physical impairment, and/or cognitive functioning **and**

is unable to perform parental responsibilities consistent with basic needs or child safety, leaving the child in a threatened state.

23. Caregiver is actively placing child in dangerous situations or fails to protect the child from imminent threats from other persons.
24. Caregiver permits a child to enter or remain in a structure or vehicle that is used for the purposes of manufacturing dangerous drugs.
25. Evidence of abuse or neglect and the caregiver denies access to or will flee with child to avoid CPS contact.

RESPONSE TIME 2 (Standard Response Time 48 Hours; Mitigated Response Time 72 Hours)

Impending danger refers to a family condition (behavior, emotion, motive, perception, or situation) that may not be occurring in the present but is likely to occur in the immediate to near future and will likely result in serious or severe harm to a child.

~Continued on next page



Continued

All information gathered is analyzed to the following five factors – if all safety threshold criteria are met, the report meets Response Time #2 criteria.

Safety Threshold Criteria – HOTLINE VERSION

1. Specific & Observable – The family's condition can be described in specific behavioral terms.
2. Out of Control – Beyond the control of any adult in the household to prevent the impending danger or unknown whether any adult is present or able to control the situation
3. Vulnerable Child – Reliant or dependent on others for protection
4. Severity – Likely to cause serious or severe harm to a child
5. Imminence (Specific Time Frame) – Likely to occur within the next 72 hours

RESPONSE TIME 3 (Standard Response Time 72 Hours; Mitigated Response Time 96 Hours)

Reports that do not rise to the level of present or impending danger, but there is an incident of abuse or neglect that has happened in the past 30 days. This includes a current minor injury to the child.

RESPONSE TIME 4 – (Standard Response Time 7 Consecutive Days; Standard Response Time Can Not Be Mitigated)

Reports that do not rise to the level of present or impending danger, but:

- there is an incident of abuse or neglect that happened more than 30 days ago, or
- the date of last occurrence is unknown and there is no current physical indicator of maltreatment, or
- there is UNREASONABLE risk of harm to the child's health or welfare.

Mitigating Factors

- Child is hospitalized and will remain hospitalized until the initial response is made during the mitigated response time.
- Child is under continuous supervision of a responsible adult as confirmed by a professional mandated reporting source and will remain there until the initial response is made during the mitigated response time.
- Child death and confirmation that there is no other child in the home or the alleged perpetrator has no access to another child.

Revision History: DES (02-2011)

A Special Visitor to the CASA Office



The Heroes!



Straight from the Manual

Getting Started Manual Section Four

SEPARATION

Understanding typical reactions of children to separation and loss provides motivation for fulfilling your CASA role. By integrating this understanding about separation and loss with information on child development, behavior, attachment, and a child's sense of time, you will be able to assess a child's needs more accurately. When children are removed from their homes, no matter how strong or weak the attachment, they feel isolated and detached. Not only do they worry about not seeing their parents, but they also fear losing their peer groups and siblings, changing schools, or missing something as simple as their bed or toys.

SEPARATION ANXIETY DISORDER

While all children would be expected to show signs of distress if removed from their

homes, some children have extreme reactions. In a child with separation anxiety disorder, the feelings of anxiety become so intense that they interfere with the child's ability to participate in daily activities. Below is a list of characteristics of a child who suffers from separation anxiety disorder:

- Recurrent excessive distress when separation from home or caretakers occurs or is anticipated
- Persistent and chronic worry about losing a caretaker or that person being hurt
- Persistent worry that an event will lead to separation from a caretaker (e.g., getting lost or being kidnapped)
- Reluctance or refusal to go to school, camp, or a friend's house because of the fear of separation
- Clinging to a parent or shadowing the parent around the house
- Excessive fear of being alone in the child's room, the child's house, or elsewhere

- Reluctance or refusal to go to sleep without being near a caretaker or when away from home
- Nightmares involving separation
- Complaints of physical symptoms (headaches, stomachaches, nausea, vomiting) when separation from a caretaker takes place or is anticipated
- Enuresis (bed wetting) and encopresis (soiling)

For some children, medication can significantly reduce the anxiety and allow them to return to school. These medications may also reduce the physical symptoms. Generally, psychiatrists use medications as an addition to psychotherapy. Both play therapy and behavioral therapy have been found helpful in reducing anxiety disorders. In play therapy, the therapist helps the child work out the anxiety by expressing it through play. In behavioral therapy, the child learns to overcome fear through gradual exposure to separation from the parents.

CASA Appreciation Celebration

by **Mary Blanchard**, Cochise County CASA Volunteer

Tuesday, September 25th was our annual CASA volunteer recognition day. Twenty-five years ago on September 23rd CASA began in Arizona. Emily Lee DeRosa, a recently retired CASA volunteer and current CASA Council member, was one of the original CASA volunteers. Joan Hansen got her training ten years ago.

Every CASA volunteer who attended got a container of M&Ms. Motivational sayings were attached to the container as follows:

- Green:** For the inspiration you give each day.
- Blue:** For your patience in showing kids the way.
- Orange.** For your warmth and caring style.
- Yellow:** For the way you make everybody smile.
- Red:** For all the lives you've touched this year.



Every CASA volunteer was also given a 4x4 inch stone tile that had the first name of the volunteer as well as the CASA logo. Joan and Lisette put three coats of shellac on the tile so it would be able to be used as a coaster. It is sitting on my desk right now with a cup of coffee on it.

Judge Beumler was among the guests and told us that she attended one of the Best for Babies monthly meetings and was pleased to hear that it would be wonderful if there were a CASA volunteer for every baby because the pre-verbal children cannot speak for themselves and need an advocate.

Mark Dannels from the CASA Council spoke and encouraged the CASA volunteers to ask the CASA Council for financial support if their child/ren need something that they wouldn't get otherwise. He said the council never turns down a

reasonable request. I have gotten a vast variety of things for my kids...prom dresses, tutoring, a senior class ring, a set of books. Once I bought shoes for a coming of age party and lost the receipt, so I couldn't ask for reimbursement because of my carelessness. So don't be shy, keep your receipts and send them in with your request for something special that your child needs. Just

e-mail the request to Joan and mail in the receipt to her office.

Magic!!!!

This year there was no CASA Volunteer of the Year. Joan decided that there were too many people doing a great job, and it was impossible to single out one. Soooooooo...since we all are CASA volunteers, I suggest that every single CASA volunteer look in the mirror and say, "I am the CASA Volunteer of the Year." Let's face it, we all work hard, and we all change lives, and we truly do advocate for our kids.

So congratulations to you, our CASA Volunteer of the Year!



The theme for this year was **Magnificent & Marvelous Volunteers**

CASA Appreciation Celebration

September 25, 2012

